

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/775,921

Examiner

Lisa N. Klaus

Applicant(s)

HOFFMAN, LAWRENCE ANDREW

Art Unit

2832

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 9/30/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6-15, 19-21 and 23-36.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 September 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Applicant's arguments to the drawings, specification, claims and rejection are deemed to overcome the outstanding office action.
2. Claims 6-15, 19-21, 23-36 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Prior Art does not teach or suggest the vehicle door jamb modular contact switch for transmitting electrical current through a vehicle door jamb assembly including a door jamb of a movable door and fixed door post, comprising the plurality of active contact modules, and plurality of passive contact modules, each active contact module having a biased contact active contact and a housing having one or more coupling surfaces, wherein two or more active contact modules are coupled via their coupling surfaces; each passive contact module having a passive contact and a housing having one or more coupling surfaces, wherein two or more active contact modules are coupled via their coupling surfaces; the active contact assembly adapted to be mounted to the door jamb of a movable door and the passive contact assembly adapted to be mounted within the fixed-door post, the movable door and fixed-door post in cooperating relationship wherein the biased contact active contacts of the plurality of active contact modules are in cooperative engagement with the passive contacts of the plurality of passive contact modules and form a closed circuit when the vehicle door assumes a closed position.

Claim 19, the first end contact module comprises a first side having coupling features comprising at least one protruding male component adjacent the top side and at least one complimentary female component adjacent the bottom side, the first end passive contact module comprises a first side having coupling features comprising at least one protruding male

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component adjacent the top side and at least one complimentary female component adjacent the bottom side.

Claim 23, wherein the protruding male component and female component further comprise at least one fixation feature adapted to removably fix the engagement between the protruding male component and the complementary female component in substantial alignment therewith;

Claims 24, 36 and 36, wherein the protruding male component further comprises at least one detent ridge and detent trough and the female component further comprises at least one complimentary detent trough and ridge, wherein the detent ridge and complementary detent trough are adapted to removably fix the engagement between the protruding male component and the complementary female component in substantial alignment therewith.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Lisa Nhung Klaus whose telephone number is (571)272-1993, and whose fax number is 703-872-9306. In the event that I am not reached, you can contact my supervisor, Mr. Elvin G. Enad at (571)272-1990 or the tech center receptionist at (703) 308-1782.

Lisa Nhung Klaus

Patent Examiner - Art Unit 2832

October 7, 2004


ELVIN ENAD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800
10/13/04